




# THE BAITUSSALAM BULLETIN

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## NEWS & VIEWS

### Turkey giving 1,000 tons of aid to Myanmar Rohingya

Permission by Myanmar comes after telephone call between Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and Aung San Suu Kyi



Myanmar on Tuesday allowed a Turkish aid agency to distribute 1,000 tons of aid to Rohingya Muslims in Rakhine state, according to Turkey's presidential spokesman. Kalin said in a written statement that the permission from Myanmar came hours

after President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's telephone discussion with Myanmar State Counselor Aung San Suu Kyi on the recent violations of human rights in Rakhine. "Myanmar government allows representatives of TIKA [Turkish Cooperation and

Coordination Agency] to enter conflict region and distribute 1,000 tons of aid in the first phase," the statement read.

The moves makes TIKA the first foreign aid agency to get permission from the government to enter the region since the latest violence began on Aug. 25, Kalin noted. He said the aid would be distributed by military helicopters along with the Rakhine state government as Page 2

### Muslim world failed to pay proper attention to education

Pakistan President Mamnoon Hussain said recently that the Muslim world is lagging behind and failed over the years to pay adequate attention to education.

He was addressing the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation's conference on science and technology in Astana, Kazakhstan. He said that from the determination expressed by the attendants of the conference it was apparent it would be a success. It is pertinent that the

Muslim world gains independence in socio-economic issues, said Hussain, adding that the focus should be on science and technology studies. He said under the new projects, work in space sciences, astrology and marine life sciences would be the focus. President Mamnoon,

while thanking the organisation and Islamic development bank for cooperation, said that Pakistan will take all the necessary measures on its part. According to a Foreign Office statement, President Mamnoon also held a meeting with his Turkish counterpart T a y y a p Page 2

## BAITUSSALAM UPDATES

### Medical Camp and Food Distribution at Cattle Market

Baitussalam conducted free check-ups and provided free medicines. Along with the medical camp, the Food Bank team also distributed free food and water amongst the traders along with buns and toast for breakfast. This gesture was highly appreciated by those visiting the market along with the traders too.

### BSWT makes efforts to help out Rohingya Muslims

On the occasion of Eid-ul-Adha, BSWT did not forget the Rohingya Muslims. In collaboration with Diyanet Foundation of Turkey, animal sacrifices were carried out in the interior areas of Arakan State bordering Bangladesh. 210 sacrifices were made from which 100 mun meat was distributed amongst 1226 households. In another collaboration with Turkish NGOS, AFAD & Diyanet, BSWT had over 10,000 cooked food packages and thousands of water bottles distributed amongst the Rohingya Muslims stuck inside Burma and residing in the refugee camps in Bangladesh. Arrangements are also being made to equip the refugees with tents, clothes, blankets and sleeping bags. Syrian Refugees Again, in collaboration with the Diyanet Foundation, BSWT carried out collective animalsacrifice on behalf of the Pakistani citizens who contributed, at the Syrian border city and the mat was than distributed amongst the refugees. Partners with Diyanet Foundation for Animal Sacrifice on Eid-ul-Adha BSWT partnered with Diyanet Foundation of Turkey, to perform collective sacrifice of cows and goats in Karachi this Eid-ul-Adha on behalf of the Turkish citizens. 1050 sacrifices were made and around 400 mun meat was distributed to around 5 thousand households. BSWT volunteers worked round the clock on the three days of Eid supervising the sacrifices, and the distribution of the meat along with hosting the Turkish guests. Communal Sacrifice for Pakistani Citizens Baitussalaam Welfare Trust also conducted sacrifices of cows and goats for those Pakistanis who wanted to get their sacrifice done through the Trust. Almost 1548 sacrifices were carried out and around 400 mun meat was distributed in the rural areas surrounding of Pakistan in approximately 6 thousand needy households.

EMPATHY The Mark of a True Believer Page 2

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## FACTS, EVENTS & BELIEFS

In a way, it depends on whom you ask – and that itself may be at the core of the conflict. To most of the world (and the minority themselves), the Rohingya are a Bengali-speaking and mostly-Muslim minority in Burma, the Buddhist-majority nation in Southeast Asia also known as Myanmar. But the Burmese government says the Rohingya do not exist. In fact, they object to the very use of the word "Rohingya" at all, instead arguing that they are Bengali and entered what is now Burma during the time of the British Empire or later as illegal immigrants after Bangladesh's war for independence in 1971. More than 1 million Rohingya are estimated to live in the country, mostly in the northern part of Rakhine state along the border with Bangladesh and India, and almost as many live outside of it. Though the word Rohingya only came to widespread use in the 1990s, there are records of similar words being used to describe people in what is now Rakhine state as far back as the 18th century. Some Rohingya people say they are descended from an 8th-century shipwreck that links them to Arabs or Persians farther west. Why does this cause problems? This dispute over the



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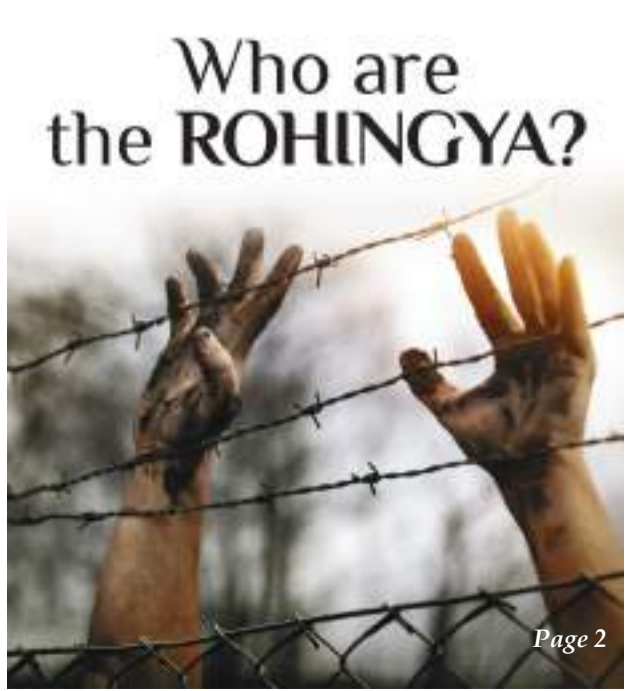
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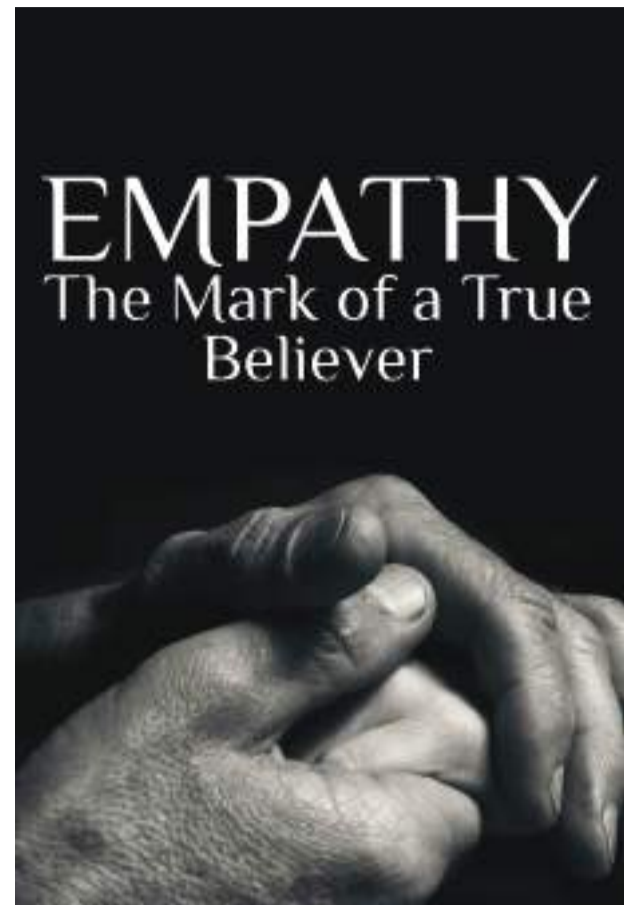
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We all want it from others, and yet we are stingy in giving it. We want others to understand us, relate to our opinions and feel our pain. We want others to listen to us and relate with us. We want others to put themselves in our shoes and view the world from our perspective. That is empathy - putting oneself in someone else's shoes. We feel close to the person who is empathetic to us, find it easy to share our thoughts with them, go to him or her when we're in problem and seek solace. Each of us has a natural sense of empathy through which we connect to others. When you feel tears streaming down your cheeks while reading a tragic news report or an emotional book, or watching a really good movie, you're experiencing strong empathy. There are two aspects of empathy: cognitive and affective. Cognitive empathy is about understanding another person's point of view, their emotions and needs at the intellectual level. Affective empathy is about actually feeling an emotion that another person is experiencing. Let's take the (hypothetical) example of Ali and his wife Sarah. Ali doesn't like cats,

and he refuses to allow Sarah to have any in their home. Now, instead of getting angry, Sarah tries empathy. She first tries to understand where he's coming from. So she investigates a little and finds out something interesting - when Ali was a little boy, he got badly bitten by a wild cat. Sarah now knows why Ali doesn't want cats in the home. She wouldn't want it either, if she were in his place. This is cognitive empathy. Next, Sarah tries to feel how it must have hurt Ali when the wild cat bit him, and how he remembers it every time a cat comes near him. This is affective empathy. In order to truly put yourself in someone else's shoes, you need both. Two Hadiths on Empathy "None of you will have faith till he wishes for his (Muslim) brother what he likes for himself." (Al-Bukhari) This hadith necessitates cognitive empathy. You have to firstly imagine yourself in someone else's shoes and think from their perspective in order to understand what you would do in his situation. Prophet Muhammad (SAW) said: "You see the believers as regards their being merciful among themselves and showing love among themselves

and being kind, resembling one body, so that, if any part of the body is not well then the whole body shares the sleeplessness (insomnia) and fever with it." (Al-Bukhari) A believer who has achieved excellence of faith will feel this special love for other believers. This is affective empathy. Point to ponder: Why do we find it easy to cry for a fictional child character who's lost his parents, and so difficult to cry for the real orphan children in war-ravaged regions of the world? Prophetic Examples of Empathy Our beloved Prophet (SAW) had an amazing sense of empathy. Allah (SWT) said about him: "There has certainly come to you a Messenger from among yourselves. Grievous to him is what you suffer; [he is] concerned over you and to the believers is kind and merciful." (Quran 9:128) He would understand other people's problems before they even verbalized it, deal with different kinds of people differently according to their nature, and use tact when giving advice. The seerah is packed with examples of his empathy. Here are a few: He would hasten the congregational prayer when he would hear a baby crying. "I stand in prayer, then I hear a child crying, so I make my prayer brief, because I do not want to cause hardship for his mother." (Nasa'i) He didn't scold or beat the Bedouin who urinated in his masjid. Rather he explained in a calm and beautiful manner. (Ibn Majah 529) True empathy requires one to step outside one's emotions completely to view things entirely from the other person's point of view. Islam has laid great emphasis on it too. To be fair and just one needs to be empathetic.

## Deen and Duniya – Hand in Hand

Baitussalam is proud to announce the introduction of a new course in its curriculum, which will focus on providing teenage Muslim girls with the unique combination of both; important Islamic knowledge, mixed with worldly requirements. This course will focus on providing young Muslimas the basic understanding of the Deen of Allah (SWT), while also grooming them via a fun-filled approach for success in the Duniya. The age group of this student base will be from 12 to 19 years of age. It is this age group where girls are most vulnerable both in school and out of it, and they need a guiding hand and a support system to walk them through the very important changes they are

going through. This course will be headed by qualified teachers, who will conduct sessions based on areas of Al-Islam to provide a basic understanding to the students enrolled. Motivational speakers will grace the venue to help the girls identify their core strengths and focus on those areas to help them gain success in both the Deen and the Duniya. The course will also have a myriad of other related activities and competitions to keep the experience fun, yet enlightening. Don't waste another minute wondering how to utilize the vast amount of energy your teenage daughter is exuding. Enroll her at Baitussalam and watch her wings begin to take shape! For more details, contact: 0323-2970320

## BSWT makes efforts to help out Rohingya Muslims

These sacrifices were carried out under the supervision of the Baitussalam Quranic Centers established all over the country. Apart from the collective sacrifices meat distribution, a lot of households also used the BSWT Food Bank services to

have their individual animal sacrificial meat distributed amongst the needy. Indeed it was a very very busy eid for the BSWT team. May Allah (SWT) accept their efforts and provide relief to those Muslims being prosecuted across the world.

### Facts, Events & Beliefs

identity of the Rohingya has big consequences in Burma. The minority is not among the 135 officially recognized ethnic groups in the country, and despite their considerable numbers and local roots in Burma, they are not considered citizens and are denied access to government services. •The Rohingya long faced discrimination – in 2009, a U.N. spokeswoman described them as "probably the most friendless people in the world" – but there has been a marked deterioration in their situation since the Burmese military began to relinquish power in 2011. •A growing Buddhist nationalism in Burma, where 90 percent of the population identify with Buddhism, has led to a number of laws on religion, including restrictions on interfaith marriage. There has also been major ethnic violence in Rakhine; most notably in 2012, when sectarian riots after the rape of a woman in the state led to large-scale displacement of Muslims, with many moving into squalid camps for internally displaced people. Why are so many Rohingya fleeing Burma now? Rohingya have fled across the border into Bangladesh for decades, while some took even riskier journeys on rickety boats to reach countries farther away. However, the surge in those escaping Burma

now is unprecedented: The U.N. refugee agency said this week that a total of 123,000 refugees have fled western Burma since August 25th, 2017. The catalyst for this is a sudden surge in insurgent violence, in turn prompting a massive response from the Burmese government. The first signs of this came in October 2016, when nine police officers were killed by armed men who were said to be Muslims. In the ensuing violence, scores were reported dead and tens of thousands displaced. Things grew worse still on Aug. 25, after a militant group called the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army (ARSA) mounted unusual coordinated attacks on security forces in northern Rakhine. The Burmese army said in response that it had killed 370 fighters tied to the group, though Rohingya activists said that many were not fighters and that the number of dead would rise. There have also been significant attacks on property in the Rohingya areas of northern Rakhine. Human Rights Watch released satellite images last week that appeared to show mass destruction of buildings in Muslim areas, though the Burmese government has said ARSA burned these villages themselves.

## Turkey giving 1,000 tons of aid to Myanmar Rohingya

uncertainty and security concerns continue in the region. The emergency aid packages contain rice, dry fish, and clothes, according to Erdogan's aide. He added that the Turkish aid agency would continue supplying aid, including food, clothes, and medicine, in the area in cooperation with the local government. He highlighted that a Turkish delegation, including Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu and TIKA head Serdar Cam, would visit Bangladesh's Cox's Bazar district, where thousands of Rohingya have taken shelter in the last 10 days. Kalin said that Turkey plans to initially distribute aid to 100,000 families in coordination with the governments of Bangladesh and Myanmar.

## Muslim world failed to pay proper attention to education

Erdogan along the sidelines of the conference. The two leaders expressed satisfaction over longstanding Pak-Turkey relations. The Turkish president said that the Muslim world needs to work together for the plight of Myanmar Muslims. The OIC First Science and Technology Summit is a one-day conference, having a view to 'identifying priorities, goals and targets for the advancement and promotion of science, technology and innovation in the OIC Member States', according to its official website. The summit which will be the first-ever heads of state and government meeting to develop prospects regarding Science and Technology will set priorities for the members countries to achieve goals over the next decade.

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### Crossword Puzzle September'17-2

**ACROSS**

- The number of years between the first and the second revelation of Quran.
- The eldest daughter of Hazrat Muhammad (SAW) (Hazrat.....)
- The number of Umrahs performed by Hazrat Muhammad (SAW).

**DOWN**

- The number of Muslim Martyrs in the battle of Uhud.
- The book of Allah (SWT) sent to Hazrat David (AS)
- He killed Umayyah bin Kahalaf in the battle of Badr. (Hazrat.....)

**Answers Puzzle September'17-1**  
 Across: 1-Mufrid; 2-Ninth; 3-Muzdalifah  
 Down: 4-Tamattu; 5-Hajj-e-Qiran; 6-Zuhar

**Note: Answers will be published in the October 2017-1 issue of TIB**

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